Nomenclatural Changes in Polygonum, Persicaria, and Aconogonon (Polygonaceae)

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ABSTRACT. Polygonum caurianum subsp. hudsonianum is raised to species rank. Polygonum bistortoides is transferred to Persicaria, and Polygonum alaskanum var. glabrescens is transferred to Aconogonon.

Polygonum hudsonianum (S. J. Wolf & McNeill) Hinds, stat. et comb. nov. Basionym: Polygonum caurianum B. L. Robinson subsp. hudsonianum S. J. Wolf & McNeill, Rhodora 88: 856. 1986. TYPE: Canada. Québec, Fort George, Baie James, 30 Aug. 1950, Lepage 12863 (holotype, DAO).

For the forthcoming treatment of *Polygonum* s.l. for the *Flora of North America*, several new nomenclatural combinations are required to reflect new knowledge in the taxonomy of this group.

Polygonum caurianum B. Robinson subsp. hudsonianum S. J. Wolf & McNeill is raised to species rank as Polygonum hudsonianum (S. J. Wolf & McNeill) Hinds, and the new combinations Persicaria bistortoides (Pursh) Hinds and Aconogonon alaskanum (W. Wight ex Hultén) var. glabrescens (Hultén) Hinds are made. Polygonum hudsonianum forms part of a complex of species within section Polygonum that includes P. fowleri B. L. Robinson and P. caurianum B. L. Robinson. Examination of relevant collections has led me to the conclusion that P. hudsonianum is more closely related to P. fowleri than to P. caurianum. There appears to be a clear distinction between P. caurianum and P. hudsonianum based partly on size but also on features of the perianth,

	P. fowleri	P. hudsonianum	P. caurianum
Fruiting perianth			
Size (mm)	3.0-4.5, mean 3.75	(2.3-)2.5-3.2(-3.5), mean	1.6-2.3(-3), mean 2.3

Table 1. Morphological comparison between Polygonum fowleri, P. hudsonianum, and P. caurianum.

Shape Color Lobes

Achenes

Size (mm)

Shape, surface texture, and cross section

Included or excluded

Leaves

Distribution

broadly pouched light green cucullate; overlapping except late season ones

(2.5-)3.0-3.7(-4.0), mean
3.3
broadly ovate, beaked;
granular roughened; 2
equal and 1 broader

included except late season ones all exserted

side, many biconvex

light to dark green or ± reddish NE & NW coastal US & Canada; S coastal Alaska; James Bay, W Hudson Bay \pm pouched at base greenish to roseate cucullate; \pm overlapping

(1.8-)2.0-2.5(-3.1), mean 2.2

broadly ovate-lanceolate; ± beaked; roughened to definitely striate-papillate; variable in cross section, many biconvex included or slightly exserted; late season ones all exserted

reddish tinged

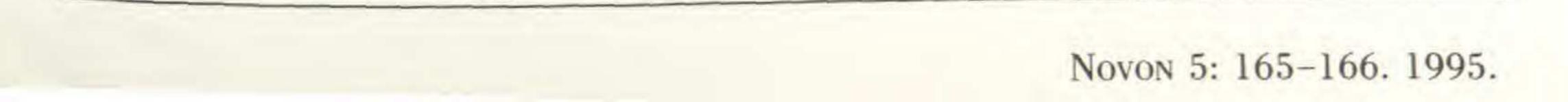
centered E of Hudson Bay & N of St. Lawrence River, Québec tapering to base of lobes roseate not cucullate; ± flat, flared and curved outward

1.4-1.6(-2.2), mean 1.7

ovate-lanceolate; not or only obscurely beaked; rough to faintly striatepapillate; mostly 1 narrow and 2 broader sides all exserted

reddish to purplish tinged

centered in NW Alaska, Yukon & NW Northwest Territories



achene, and distribution (Table 1). Separation between P. fowleri and P. hudsonianum, however, is more difficult. Many characteristics are shared by these two taxa, including the expanded base of the perianth (pouched), cucullate three outer sepals, and beaked achenes. As Table 1 indicates, however, there are enough quantitative and qualitative differences between the two taxa upon which to recognize P. hudsonianum as a species.

The description in Wolf & McNeill (1986) of *Polygonum caurianum* subsp. *hudsonianum* should be amended to include characteristics as indicated in Table 1. phology in the Polygonaceae support including the Bistorta group in the genus Persicaria.

Aconogonon alaskanum (W. Wight ex Hultén) Soják var. glabrescens (Hultén) Hinds, comb. nov. Basionym: Polygonum alaskanum W. Wight ex Hultén var. glabrescens Hultén, Acta. Univ. Lund. N.F. Avd. 2, 40(1) 4: 612. 1944. TYPE: U.S.A. Alaska: Bonanaza Creek, 19 June 1924, Eastwood 298 (holotype, GH).

Chambers (1992) clarified the correct name in *Aconogonon* for this species, but because he pre-ferred to include these taxa in *Polygonum*, left the publication of this new combination to someone else.

Persicaria bistortoides (Pursh) Hinds, comb. nov.

Basionym: Polygonum bistortoides Pursh, Fl. Amer. Sept., 1: 271. 1814. Bistorta bistortoides (Pursh) Small, Bull. Torrey Bot. Club 33: 57. 1906. TYPE: [U.S.A. Idaho:] "Quamash Flats, banks of the Missouri," now called Weippe Prairie, Clearwater Co., 20 June, M. Lewis, 1806 (holotype, PH).

Persicaria (sect. Bistorta) bistortoides is closely related to Persicaria bistorta (L.) G. Sampaio. It is recognized based on the research of Ronse Decraene & Akeroyd (1988), whose studies of floral morAcknowledgment. I wish to acknowledge the considerable assistance of George H. Flanders, Jr.

Literature Cited

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- Wolf, S. J. & J. McNeill. 1986. Synopsis and achene morphology of *Polygonum* section *Polygonum* (Polygonaceae) in Canada. Rhodora 88: 457-479.

